

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 4-5, 7-8, and 10-21 were pending prior to this Reply. In this Reply, claims 11 and 15 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claims 4-5, 7-8, 10, 12-14, and 16-21 remain pending. Of the pending claims, claims 4, 8, 12, and 16 are independent.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants appreciate that the Examiner has indicated claims 4-5, 7-8, and 10 are allowable. Applicants further appreciate that claims 12-14 and 16-21 define allowable subject matter.

In this Reply, claim 11 has been cancelled and claim 12 has been amended to include all limitations of the independent claim 11. Likewise, claim 16 has been amended to include all limitations of the independent claim 15. As a result, claims 12-14 and 16-21 are now allowable. *See Final Office Action, page 3, item 5.*

§ 102 REJECTION - KOZAK

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Kozak et al. (USPN 6,317,685, hereinafter, "Kozak"). Claim 11 has been cancelled thus rendering the rejection moot.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 11 based on Kozak be withdrawn.

§ 102 REJECTION - NOMURA

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Nomura (USPN 5,371,678). Claim 15 has been cancelled thus rendering the rejection moot.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 15 based on Nomura be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections raised in the Final Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg.

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No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s):